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YESTERDAY'S ELECTIONS IN HESSE AND BAVARIA RESULTED IN FURTHER
CONSERVATIVE GAINS AT THE EXPENSE OF CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT'S
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND THE SMALL FREE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF
FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER.

WHILE THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC-FREE DEMOCRATIC COALITION IN

HESSE HAS MANAGED BY A NARROW MARGIN TO RETAIN CONTROL OF THE STATE

GOVERNMENT, STATE LEADERS CAN TAKE LITTLE COMFORT FROM THE STEADY

EROSION OF SUPPORT IN THIS TRADITIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC STRONG
HOLD. THE CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION, AS EXPECTED,

EMERGED THE STRONGEST SINGLE PARTY IN THE STATE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

CREDIT FOR HAVING AVOIDED MORE SERIOUS LOSSES SHOULD GO TO CHANCELLOR

SCHMIDT, WITHOUT WHOSE STRONG NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONTROL OF THE

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